

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



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UGT 2 1 2013

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Non-significant Change in Selected Remedy for the Outboard Marine Corporation
Plant 2 Site, Waukegan, Illinois

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: File

The Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC) Superfund site in Waukegan, Illinois contains four operable units (OU), including the Waukegan Harbor (OU 1) and OMC Plant 2 (OU 4) sites. This memorandum documents a non-significant change that the United States Environmental Protection Agency is making to the selected remedy in the September 2007 Record of Decision (ROD) for the PCB-contaminated soil and building media at the OMC Plant 2 site. The 2007 ROD called for soil at the OMC Plant 2 site that is contaminated with PCBs above a 1 part per million (ppm) cleanup level to be excavated and disposed of off-site. EPA has completed a large portion of this work but additional PCB-contaminated soil remains to be excavated. In 2012, EPA constructed a consolidation facility (CF) on the OMC Plant 2 site to manage PCB-contaminated sediment dredged from Waukegan Harbor under a separate ROD and remedial action. EPA now plans to manage a proportionally minor amount of the additional PCB-contaminated soil that will be excavated from the OMC Plant 2 site in the CF.

Background

On September 10, 2007 EPA issued a ROD that called for the demolition and off-site disposal of PCB-contaminated buildings and the excavation and off-site disposal of PCB- and PAH-contaminated soil and sediment from the OMC Plant 2 site. To date, over 350,000 cubic yards (CY) of PCB-contaminated soil, sediment, and building materials from the OMC Plant 2 site have been disposed in off-site landfills.

In September 2012, EPA completed construction of a CF on the OMC Plant 2 site that was built to manage sediment dredged from Waukegan Harbor. The sediment was estimated to average about 3 ppm PCB, which is non-Toxic Substances Control Act¹ (TSCA) material. EPA completed the harbor dredging operations on July 17, 2013, and placed a total of 124,244 CY of the non-TSCA PCB-contaminated sediment into the CF. The CF was built to have a capacity of about 150,000 CY of sediment; therefore, excess capacity of about 20,000 CY remains.

In August 2013, EPA identified an additional 20,000 CY of PCB-contaminated soil that needs be excavated from the OMC Plant 2 site.

¹ "TSCA material" refers to soil or sediment at 50 ppm PCBs or higher.

Non-significant Change

EPA proposes to manage approximately 9,700 CY of the total 20,000 CY of OMC Plant 2 site soil planned for excavation in the CF. There is capacity available in the CF and the harbor sediment in the CF is similar in PCB concentration to the 9,700 CY of soil as both are contaminated at less than 50 ppm PCBs. The 9,700 CY of soil is less than 5 percent of the total 350,000 CY of PCB-contaminated soil, sediment, and building debris that has been disposed of in off-site landfills from the OMC Plant 2 site. The remaining 10,300 CY of the 20,000 CY of OMC Plant 2 soil will be disposed of off-site.

EPA estimates that this change in disposal location of the 9,700 CY of non-TSCA soil from the OMC Plant 2 site will lower the soil remediation costs for OU 4 by more than \$180,000. Additionally, this is a "green" remedy that will be beneficial to the environment. By managing the 9,700 CY of soil on-site, there will not be diesel emissions from over 500 trucks hauling the soil to an off-site landfill.